

# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Assignment of Intelligence Officers to JPRS

FR

Director, Foreign Broadcast  
Information Service

EXTENSION

NO.

FBIS-0258/85

DATE

7 June 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and  
building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S  
INITIALSCOMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom  
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)1. Acting Deputy Director  
for Science and  
Technology

2. Room 6E45, Headquarters

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15.

Per your conversation with  
on JPRS.

D/FBIS

CONFIDENTIAL

FBIS-0258/85  
7 June 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Science and Technology

25X1 FROM:

[redacted]  
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

SUBJECT: Assignment of Intelligence Officers to JPRS

Jim:

25X1 1. I promised to look into the matter [redacted] discussed with you--the assignment of intelligence officers to JPRS. It is very much as I indicated to you on the phone.

2. IO Foreign Documents Officers are assigned for tours of varying lengths to JPRS for the following reasons:

25X1 a. To staff JPRS with quality people. JPRS is responsible for the final product that goes out in 54 publications. The job involves more than editing; it involves assigning work to the [redacted] independent contractors and monitoring their performance to assure quality work. They also provide substantive and linguistic guidance to the contractors. We must have a mix of languages and expertise in our assignees to JPRS supervisory positions.

b. To provide career development for the intelligence officers. The young employee gets exposure to the basics of supervision and coordination through constant contact with and supervision of the contractors. We know that many of our strongest mid-level officers have improved their performance by spending time at JPRS.

3. Several officers have complained to our Career Development Officer about having to do time at JPRS. They argue that they lose touch with substantive areas, that they don't want supervisory experience, that physical isolation at JPRS is a hindrance in attending meetings, there is not enough clerical help at JPRS, etc. Most of the complaints are from people of the USSR Division; the other divisions and language areas don't seem to have a problem.

4. I conclude that some time--not necessarily two years--at JPRS is useful, indeed essential, for someone making a career as a documents officer in FBIS. I think we have to stay flexible--send some for 6 months, others for a year or 2--depending on the areas.

25X1 All portions are CONFIDENTIAL.

[redacted]

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25X1 5. Part of the background to this is that [ ] has always argued to me that intelligence officers involved in the Central Asian nationalities problem should be on a separate career track. I have never agreed with that; we see our Soviet nationalities officers as being documents officers for Soviet affairs, and potential mid-level and high-level managers for FBIS. I therefore think that broad use of their knowledge and abilities is required. They must punch the right tickets and get the right experience to be broad-based officers, at the same time making use of their specific knowledge and talents.

25X1 6. There are a couple of things, though, we must keep in mind for the future. The isolation of JPRS is an admitted problem; when we move to a new building we want to incorporate JPRS on the ground floor of FBIS, so that our officers can have easy contact with each other and easy access to the shuttles, parking, etc. JPRS was originally set up for cover reasons; it should be brought more closely into the FBIS operation, and its colocation with FBIS should be something we definitely plan to do.



25X1 DDS&T/FBIS [ ] (7 Jun 85)

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